

Message Text

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SUBJECT: DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF FEB 3, 1976
(SALT TWO-893)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY DEPUTY MINISTER
SEMENOV AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF 3 FEB 76.

SEMENOV STATEMENT, FEBRUARY 3, 1976

I

AFTER RESUMPTION OF THE WORK OF THE DELEGATIONS, THE
QUESTION OF THE LIMITATION ON INCREASING THE DIMENSION OF ICBM
SILO LAUNCHERS IN THE PROCESS OF THEIR MODERNIZATION HAS
BEEN TOUCHED UPON BY BOTH SIDES.

GUIDED BY THE INTERESTS OF FURTHER PROGRESS IN WORKING OUT
SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON THE LIMITATION
OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, THE USSR DELEGATION IS UNDER
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INSTRUCTIONS TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING NEW WORDING FOR ARTICLE

IV, PAR. 4:

"THE PARTIES UNDERTAKE IN THE PROCESS OF MODERNIZATION AND REPLACEMENT NOT TO INCREASE THE ORIGINAL VOLUME OF ICBM SILO LAUNCHERS BY MORE THAN 32 PERCENT. WITHIN THESE LIMITS EACH PARTY SHALL BE FREE TO DETERMINE WHETHER SUCH AN INCREASE WILL BE MADE WITH RESPECT TO THE INTERNAL DIAMETER OF ICBM SILO LAUNCHERS, THEIR DEPTH, OR BOTH THESE DIMENSIONS."

THE USSR DELEGATION ALSO PROPOSES THAT THE NEGOTIATION RECORD REFLECT A COMMON UNDERSTANDING TO THE EFFECT THAT THE WORD "ORIGINAL" IN ARTICLE IV, PAR. 4, REFERS TO THE DIMENSIONS OF AN ICBM SILO LAUNCHER AS OF MAY 26, 1972 OR THE DATE ON WHICH SUCH LAUNCHER BECOMES OPERATIONAL, WHICHEVER IS LATER.

WITH THE ABOVE COMMON UNDERSTANDING, THE WORDING OF ARTICLE IV, PAR. 4, PROPOSED BY THE SOVIET SIDE, PROVIDES A CLEAR SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION OF LIMITATIONS ON INCREASING THE DIMENSIONS OF ICBM SILO LAUNCHERS IN THE PROCESS OF MODERNIZATION AND REPLACEMENT.

BOTH SIDES REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS QUESTION WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE AGREEMENT BEING PREPARED. REACHING AGREEMENT THEREON WOULD BE OF SUBSTANTIAL IMPORTANCE FROM THE STANDPOINT OF WORKING OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DRAFT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT NEGOTIATIONS IN MOSCOW BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE U.S.

II

PRIOR TO THE RECESS IN THE WORK OF THE DELEGATIONS, THE QUESTION OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE NEW AGREEMENT WAS DISCUSSED (ARTICLE XVII, PAR. 2). TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE CONSIDERATIONS EXPRESSED IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, AS YOU KNOW, BEGINNING WITH THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 1975 THE USSR DELEGATION TABLED AND PROVIDED EXTENSIVE RATIONALE FOR A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS AIMED AT REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PARAGRAPH ON A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE BASIS. REGRETTABLY, BY THE TIME OF THE WORKING RECESS, DISCUSSION OF THESE QUESTIONS HAD NOT DEVELOPED

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AS NECESSARY.

THE USSR DELEGATION ASSUMES THAT THE PROPOSALS TABLED HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY STUDIED AND THAT THE U.S. DELEGATION WILL ADDRESS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT THE PROPOSALS OF THE SOVIET SIDE FOR ALL OF PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE XVII.

III

AMONG THE QUESTIONS CONSIDERED IN DETAIL AT THE NEGOTIATIONS PRIOR TO THE RECESS IS ARTICLE XVI--ON VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE BY THE SIDES WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS.

THE WORDING OF ARTICLE XVI, EXCEPT FOR A PORTION OF ITS PARAGRAPH 3, HAS BEEN AGREED UPON.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE WORDING OF ARTICLE XVI, PAR. 3, THERE WAS DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE QUESTION OF WORKING OUT A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF THE SIDES WITH RESPECT TO DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT MEASURES.

THE RECORD OF THE DISCUSSIONS HELD HAS BEEN STUDIED BY THE SOVIET SIDE. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE USSR DELEGATION PROPOSES THAT THE WORDING CONCERNING DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT MEASURES BE AGREED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

"DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT MEASURES AS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF ARTICLE XVI ARE SPECIAL MEASURES FOR HIDING OR CAMOUFLAGING, CARRIED OUT DELIBERATELY TO HINDER OR DELIBERATELY TO IMPEDE VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS AGREEMENT BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS OPERATING IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE ABOVE ARTICLE."

THE USSR DELEGATION EXPRESSES ITS CONSENT TO ADOPTION OF THIS WORDING AS AN AGREED STATEMENT OF THE SIDES.

IN TABLING THE PROPOSAL FOR THE LANGUAGE CONCERNING DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT MEASURES, WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE DISCUSSIONS HELD HERE EARLIER, IN PARTICULAR, THE U.S. SIDE'S
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CONSIDERATIONS ON THIS ISSUE. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THE NEW SOVIET PROPOSAL MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION FOR ARTICLE XVI, PAR. 3, IN ITS ENTIRETY.

JOHNSON

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